CONTENTS

List of Illustrations xcvii
Preface xxxiii
Acknowledgments xxxvii

Chapter 1 INTRODUCTION: FREEDOM OF DISPOSITION 1

A. The Power to Transmit Property at Death 2
   Lawrence M. Friedman, Dead Hands: A Social History of Wills, Trusts, and Inheritance Law 2
   1. Freedom of Disposition and the Dead Hand 3
      Shapira v. Union National Bank 5
   2. Justifying Freedom of Disposition 16
      a. The Donor’s Prerogative 16
         Adam J. Hirsch & William K.S. Wang, A Qualitative Theory of the Dead Hand 16
         Daniel B. Kelly, Restricting Testamentary Freedom: Ex Ante Versus Ex Post Justifications 18
      b. Concentrations of Wealth 19
         Wojciech Kopczuk, What Do We Know About the Evolution of Top Wealth Shares in the United States? 20
         Edward N. Wolff & Maury Gittleman, Inheritances and the Distribution of Wealth or Whatever Happened to the Great Inheritance Boom? 21
      c. Human and Cultural Capital 22
         Stephen J. McNamee & Robert K. Miller, Jr., The Meritocracy Myth 22
      d. A Question of Tax Policy? 25
   3. From Feudalism to a Constitutional Right 29
   4. Posthumously Created Property Rights 33
      Shaw Family Archives Ltd. v. CMG Worldwide, Inc. 33

B. The Mechanics of Succession 40
   1. Probate and Nonprobate Property 40
   2. Probate Terminology 41
   3. Probate Administration 44
      a. Opening Probate and Choice of Law 44
      b. Common Form and Solemn Form Probate 45
      c. Formal and Informal Probate 45
      d. Supervised and Unsupervised Administration 46
      e. Barring Creditors 47
      f. Closing the Estate 47
   4. Can Probate Be Avoided? 49
C. Professional Responsibility
   1. Duties to Intended Beneficiaries
      *Simpson v. Calivas*
   2. Joint Representation
      *A. v. B.*

Chapter 2  INTESTACY: AN ESTATE PLAN BY DEFAULT

A. An Estate Plan by Default
   1. Why Do So Many People Die Intestate?
   2. The Purpose of Intestacy Statutes
   3. Heirship and the Expectancy of an Heir Apparent
   4. Applicable Law and the Uniform Probate Code
      Uniform Probate Code §§ 2-101, 2-102, 2-103, 2-105

B. The Structure of Intestate Succession
   1. Surviving Spouse
      a. The Spouse’s Share
      b. Unmarried Cohabiting Partners
      c. The Problem of Simultaneous Death
   2. Descendants
      a. Representation
      b. Representation in Wills and Trusts
   3. Ancestors, Collaterals, and Others
      a. Parents
      b. Other Ancestors and Collaterals
      c. Laughing Heirs
      d. Stepchildren and In-Laws
      e. Half-Bloods
      f. Escheat
   4. Disinheritance by Negative Will

C. Transfers to Children
   1. Adopted Children
      a. Formal Adoption
         *Hall v. Vallandingham*
      b. Adult Adoption
      c. Adoption and Wills and Trusts
         *Minor v. Citizens Fidelity Bank & Trust Co.*
      d. Equitable Adoption
         *O’Neal v. Wilkes*
   2. Posthumous Children
   3. Nonmarital Children
   4. Reproductive Technology and New Forms of Parentage
      a. Posthumously Conceived Children
         *Woodward v. Commissioner of Social Security*
      b. Posthumously Conceived Children and Wills and Trusts
      c. Surrogacy and Opposite-Sex Married Couples
      d. Assisted Reproduction and Same-Sex Couples
      e. The 2008 Amendments to the UPC
   5. Advancements and Hotchpot
      a. Advancements at Common Law
Contents

b. Hotchpot 122
c. Advancements in Modern Law 123
   Uniform Probate Code § 2-109 123
6. Guardianship and Conservatorship of Minors 124
   a. Guardian of the Person 125
   b. Property Management Options 125

D. Bars to Succession 127
   1. The Slayer Rule 127
      In re Estate of Mahoney 127
      The Unworthy Heir 134
   2. Disclaimer 135
      a. From Common Law to Statutory Law 136
      b. Avoiding Taxes 137
      c. Avoiding Creditors 137
      d. Disclaimers to Qualify for Medicaid 139

Chapter 3 WILLS: FORMALITIES AND FORMS 141

A. Execution of Wills 142
   1. Attested Wills 142
      a. The Core Formalities 142
         Uniform Probate Code § 2-502 144
      b. The Functions of Formalities 144
         John H. Langbein, Substantial Compliance with the Wills Act 145
      c. The Strict Compliance Rule 146
         Stevens v. Casdorph 149
         The Meaning of “Presence” 152
         The “Signature” Requirement 154
      d. Interested Witnesses and Purging Statutes 157
         (1) From Disqualification to Purging 157
         (2) The Trend Away from Purging 158
      e. Model Execution Ceremony 158
         The Self-Proving Affidavit 161
         Safeguarding a Will 161
      f. Ad Hoc Relief from Strict Compliance 162
         In re Pavlinko’s Estate 163
         In re Snide 166
      g. The Substantial Compliance Doctrine 170
         The Unfulfilled Promise of Substantial Compliance 170
         From Substantial Compliance to Harmless Error: Australia’s National Experiment 174
      h. The Harmless Error Rule 176
         Uniform Probate Code § 2-503 177
         In re Estate of Hall 178
         In re Probate of Will and Codicil of Macool 183
         Writings, Documents, and Electronic or Digital Wills 190
         In re Estate of Javier Castro 191
   2. Notarized Wills 197
      Lawrence W. Waggoner, The UPC Authorizes Notarized Wills 197
   3. Holographic Wills 198
      a. Discerning Testamentary Intent 199
         Ashbel G. Gulliver & Catherine J. Tilson, Classification of Gratuitous Transfers 199
B. Revocation of Wills 217
   1. Revocation by Writing or by Physical Act 217
      Uniform Probate Code § 2-507 217
      a. Express and Implied Revocatory Writings 218
      b. Formality in Revocation by Writing or Physical Act 219
         Thompson v. Royall 219
      c. Presumption of Physical Act Revocation 222
         Harrison v. Bird 222
         Lost Wills and the Presumption of Revocation 224
      d. Harmless Error in Revocation 226
         In re Estate of Stoker 226
      e. Partial Revocation by Physical Act 231
   2. Dependent Relative Revocation 231
      LaCroix v. Senecal 232
      Restatement (Third) of Property: Wills and Other Donative Transfers § 4.3 235
   3. Revival of Revoked Wills 237
      Uniform Probate Code § 2-509 238
   4. Revocation by Operation of Law 238
      a. Divorce 239
         Uniform Probate Code § 2-804 239
      b. Marriage 240
      c. Birth of Children 240

C. Components of a Will 240
   1. Integration 241
      In re Estate of Rigsby 241
   2. Reproduction by Codicil 244
   3. Incorporation by Reference 245
      a. Existing Writings 245
         Uniform Probate Code § 2-510 245
         Clark v. Greenhalge 245
      b. Subsequent Writings and Tangible Personal Property 252
         Uniform Probate Code § 2-513 252
   4. Acts of Independent Significance 254
      Uniform Probate Code § 2-512 255

D. Contracts Relating to Wills 255
   1. Contracts to Make a Will 256
      Uniform Probate Code § 2-514 257
   2. Contracts Not to Revoke a Will 257
      Keith v. Lulofs 258
Chapter 4  WILLS: CAPACITY AND CONTESTS  

A. Capacity to Make a Will  
1. Mental Capacity  
   In re Wright's Estate  
   Wilson v. Lane  
2. Insane Delusion  
   In re Strittmater's Estate  
   Breeden v. Stone  

B. Undue Influence  
1. What Is Undue Influence?  
2. Undue Influence in the Cases  
   In re Estate of Sharis  
   Presumptions and Burden Shifting in Undue Influence Cases  
   In re Will of Moses  
   Lipper v. Weslow  
   Bequests to Lawyers and Fiduciary Appointments  
3. Planning for and Avoiding a Will Contest  
   a. Warning Signs  
   b. Strategies  

C. Duress  
   Latham v. Father Divine  
   Interference with Inheritance, Restitution and Unjust Enrichment, and 
   Constructive Trust  

D. Fraud  

E. Tortious Interference with an Expectancy  
   Schilling v. Herrera  

Chapter 5  WILLS: CONSTRUCTION  

A. Mistaken or Ambiguous Language in Wills  
1. Plain Meaning and No Reformation  
   Mahoney v. Grainger  
   In re Estate of Cole  
2. Ad Hoc Relief for Mistaken Terms  
   Arnheiter v. Arnheiter  
   In re Gibbs' Estate  
3. Openly Reforming Wills for Mistake  
   Uniform Probate Code § 2-805  
   In re Estate of Duke  

B. Death of Beneficiary Before Death of Testator  
1. Lapsed and Void Devises  
   In re Estate of Russell  
2. Antilapse Statutes  
   Uniform Probate Code § 2-605  
   a. Presumed Intent  
   b. Scope  
   c. Default Rules  
   d. Words of Survivorship  
   Ruotolo v. Tietjen  


3. Class Gifts 368  
   a. What Is a Class? 368  
      Restatement (Third) of Property: Wills and Other Donative Transfers §§ 13.1, 13.2 368  
      Dawson v. Yucus 369  
   b. Application of Antilapse Statutes to Class Gifts 372  
4. Summary Diagram 373  

C. Changes in Property After Execution of Will 373  
1. Ademption by Extinction 373  
   In re Estate of Anton 374  
   Uniform Probate Code § 2-606 381  
2. Stock Splits and the Problem of Increase 382  
3. Satisfaction of General Pecuniary Bequests 383  
4. Exoneration of Liens 383  
5. Abatement 384  

Chapter 6  
TRUSTS: CHARACTERISTICS AND CREATION 385  

A. The Trust in American Law 386  
1. Origins of the Trust 386  
2. Sources of Law 387  
3. Vocabulary, Typology, and Illustrative Uses 391  
4. Bifurcation of Ownership 393  
5. A Trust Compared with a Legal Life Estate 396  
   a. Legal Life Estate 397  
   b. Equitable Life Estate—A Trust 398  
6. Business Trusts 398  
7. Foreign Trust Law 400  

B. Creation of a Trust 401  
1. Intent to Create a Trust 401  
   a. Testamentary Trust 401  
   b. Deed of Trust 403  
      Jimenez v. Lee 404  
   c. Declaration of Trust 408  
      Hebrew University Ass’n v. Nye (1961) 409  
      Hebrew University Ass’n v. Nye (1966) 412  
2. Trust Property 414  
   Unthank v. Rippstein 414  
3. Ascertifiable Beneficiaries 418  
   a. The Beneficiary Principle 418  
      Clark v. Campbell 419  
   b. Pet and Other Noncharitable Purpose Trusts 422  
      In re Searight’s Estate 423  
4. A Written Instrument? 429  
   a. Oral Inter Vivos Trusts of Personal Property 429  
      Uniform Trust Code § 407 429  
      In re Estate of Fournier 429  
   b. Secret Testamentary Trusts and the Wills Act 433  
      Olliffe v. Wells 433  
   c. Oral Inter Vivos Trusts of Land and the Statute of Frauds 436
Chapter 7  NONPROBATE TRANSFERS AND PLANNING FOR INCAPACITY 439

A. The Rise of Nonprobate Succession 440
John H. Langbein, Major Reforms of the Property Restatement and the Uniform Probate Code: Reformation, Harmless Error, and Nonprobate Transfers 440

B. Revocable Trusts 444
1. The Wills Act and a Present Transfer 445
2. Abandoning the Present Transfer Fiction 447
   Uniform Trust Code § 603 448
   *Fulp v. Gilliland* 448
3. Revoking or Amending a Revocable Trust 453
   Uniform Trust Code § 602 454
   *Patterson v. Patterson* 455
4. The Subsidiary Law of Wills 459
   *State Street Bank and Trust Co. v. Reiser* 459
   *Clymer v. Mayo* 462
5. Revocable Trusts in Contemporary Practice 466
   a. The Pour-Over Will 466
   b. Statutory Validation of a Pour Over into an Unfunded Revocable Trust 467
   c. Deathtime Considerations 467
   d. Lifetime Considerations 470

C. The Other Will Substitutes 471
1. Life Insurance 471
   *Cook v. Equitable Life Assurance Society* 473
2. Pension and Retirement Plans 478
   a. The Growth in Pension and Retirement Plans 479
      John H. Langbein, The Twentieth-Century Revolution in Family Wealth Transmission 479
   b. Types of Pension and Retirement Plans 480
   c. Succession Issues for Pension and Retirement Accounts 481
      *Nunnenman v. Estate of Grubbs* 482
      *Egelhoff v. Egelhoff* 486
3. Pay-on-Death and Transfer-on-Death Contracts 492
   Uniform Probate Code § 6-101 492
   Multiple-Party Bank and Brokerage Accounts 493
   *Varela v. Bernachea* 493
4. Nonprobate Transfer of Real Property 496

D. Planning for Incapacity 498
1. Property Management 498
   a. Conservatorship 498
   b. Revocable Trust 499
   c. Durable Power of Attorney 502
      *In re Estate of Kurrelmeyer* 504
2. Health Care 511
   a. Default Law 511
   b. Advance Directives 511
   c. Physician Aid in Dying 513
3. Disposition of the Body 514
   a. Post-Mortem Remains 514
   b. Organ Donation 515
Chapter 8  LIMITS ON FREEDOM OF DISPOSITION: PROTECTION OF THE SPOUSE AND CHILDREN 519

A. Protection of the Surviving Spouse 520
1. The Elective Share of a Separate Property Surviving Spouse 520
   a. Economic Partnership or Support Obligation? 522
      Uniform Probate Code Article II, Part 2, General Comment 523
   b. Unmarried Cohabiting Partners 525
   c. Variation Across the States 525
   d. Nonprobate Property
      (1) Judicial Responses 528
         Sullivan v. Burkin 528
      (2) Statutory Reform 535
         In re Estate of Myers 535
   e. The Uniform Probate Code 540
   f. Waiver by Premarital or Postnuptial Agreement 544
      Uniform Premarital and Marital Agreement Act § 9 546
      Reece v. Elliott 548
2. Community Property 553
   a. The Spread of the Community Property System 553
   b. Management and Disposition of Community Property 556
3. Migrating Couples and Multistate Property Holdings 558
   a. Moving from Separate Property to Community Property 558
   b. Moving from Community Property to Separate Property 559
4. Miscellaneous Additional Rights 560
   a. Social Security 560
   b. Pension and Retirement Accounts 561
   c. Homestead 562
   d. Personal Property Set-Aside 563
   e. Family Allowance 563
   f. Dower and Curtesy 563

B. Intentional Omission of a Child 564
1. American Law 564
2. The Family Maintenance System of the Commonwealth 566
   Lambeff v. Farmers Co-operative Executors & Trustees Ltd. 566

C. Protection Against Unintentional Omission 571
1. Spouse Omitted from Premarital Will 571
   Uniform Probate Code § 2-301 571
   In re Estate of Prestie 572
2. Unintentional Disinheritance of a Child 574
   Uniform Probate Code § 2-302 575
   Gray v. Gray 576
   In re Estate of Jackson 583

Chapter 9  TRUSTS: FIDUCIARY ADMINISTRATION 587

A. From Limited Powers to Fiduciary Administration 588
1. From Conveyance to Management 588
   John H. Langbein, Rise of the Management Trust 588
2. Trustees’ Powers 591
3. Fiduciary Governance 593
   Robert H. Sitkoff, Trust Law as Fiduciary Governance Plus Asset Partitioning 593
B. The Duty of Loyalty

Hartman v. Hartle
In re Gleeson's Will
In re Rothko

C. The Duty of Prudence

1. The Distribution Function
   a. Discretionary Distributions
      Marsman v. Nasca
   b. Sole, Absolute, or Uncontrolled Discretion
   c. Exculpation Clauses
   d. Mandatory Arbitration

2. The Investment Function
   a. From Legal Lists to the Prudent Investor Rule
      Uniform Prudent Investor Act §§ 1, 2, 3, 4
   b. Recurring Problems in Applying the Prudent Investor Rule
      (1) The Duty to Diversify and Inception Assets
      In re Estate of Janes
      Compensatory Damages for Imprudent Investment
      Wood v. U.S. Bank, N.A.
   (2) The Terms of the Trust

3. The Custodial and Administrative Functions
   a. Duty to Collect and Protect Trust Property
   b. Duty to Earmark Trust Property
   c. Duty Not to Mingle Trust Funds with the Trustee's Own
   d. Duty to Keep Adequate Records of Administration
   e. Duty to Bring and Defend Claims

4. Trustee Selection and Divided Trusteeship
   a. Choosing a Trustee
   b. Delegation by a Trustee
      Uniform Trust Code § 807
   c. Division by a Settlor
      (1) Co-Trustees
      (2) Power of Appointment
      (3) Directed Trusts
   d. Private Trust Company

D. The Duty of Impartiality

1. Due Regard and the Terms of the Trust
2. The Principal and Income Problem
   In re Heller

E. The Duty to Inform and Account

Uniform Trust Code § 813

1. Responding to a Request for Information
   Uniform Trust Code § 105
   Wilson v. Wilson

2. Affirmative Disclosure
   Allard v. Pacific National Bank

3. Accountings and Repose
   a. Judicial Accountings
      National Academy of Sciences v. Cambridge Trust Co.
   b. Informal Accountings and Release
## Chapter 10  TRUSTS: ALIENATION AND MODIFICATION

### A. Alienation of the Beneficial Interest

1. Discretionary Trusts
   a. Pure Discretionary Trust
   b. Support Trust
   c. Discretionary Support Trust
   d. Collapsing the Categories
      Uniform Trust Code § 504
   e. Protective Trusts

2. Spendthrift Trusts
   Uniform Trust Code §§ 502, 503
   *Scheffel v. Krueger*

3. Self-Settled Asset Protection Trusts
   *Federal Trade Commission v. Affordable Media, LLC*

4. Trusts for the State Supported
   a. Self-Settled Trusts
   b. Trusts Created by Third Parties

### B. Modification and Termination

1. Consent of the Beneficiaries
   a. English Law
   b. The *Clafin* Doctrine
      *In re Estate of Brown*
   c. The UTC and the Restatement (Third) of Trusts
      Uniform Trust Code § 411

2. Deviation and Changed Circumstances
   a. Traditional Law
   b. Extension to Dispositive Provisions
      Uniform Trust Code § 412
      *In re Riddell*
   c. Tax Objectives

3. Trust Decanting
   *Harrell v. Badger*

### C. Trustee Removal

Uniform Trust Code § 706
*Davis v. U.S. Bank National Association*

## Chapter 11  TRUSTS: CHARITABLE PURPOSES, CY PRES, AND SUPERVISION

### A. Charitable Purposes

*Shenandoah Valley National Bank v. Taylor*

### B. Cy Pres and Deviation

1. Cy Pres
   a. Illegal, Impossible, or Impracticable
      *In re Neher’s Will*
   b. Wasteful
      *San Francisco Chronicle: The Buck Trust*
Chapter 12  TRUSTS: POWERS OF APPOINTMENT 807

A. Purposes, Terminology, and Types of Powers 808
  1. Terminology and Relationships 808
     a. The Parties 808
     b. Creation 809
     c. General and Nongeneral Powers 809
     d. Time and Manner of Exercise 810
     e. Ownership Equivalence 811
     f. A Fiduciary Power of Appointment? 812
  2. Tax Considerations 813
     a. General and Nongeneral Powers 813
     b. Flexibility Without Estate Tax Liability 814
  3. Creditor Rights 815

B. Exercise of a Power of Appointment 820
  1. Manifestation of Intent 821
     Beals v. State Street Bank & Trust Co. 821
  2. Formal Requirements Imposed by the Donor 827
     a. The Nature of the Instrument 827
     b. Specific Reference Requirement 828
     Uniform Probate Code § 2-704 829
  3. Permissible Exercise of the Power 830
     a. Appointment to an Object 830
        Timmons v. Ingrahm 830
     b. Appointment in Further Trust 835
        Brown v. Miller 835
     c. Creation of a New Power of Appointment 838
     d. Exclusive and Nonexclusive Powers 839
     e. Salvage Doctrines: Allocation and Capture 840
        (1) Allocation 840
        (2) Capture 840
  4. Disclaimer, Release, and Contract 841

C. Failure to Exercise a Power of Appointment 842
  1. General Power 842
     Uniform Powers of Appointment Act § 310 843
  2. Nongeneral Power 843
     Uniform Powers of Appointment Act § 311 843
Chapter 13  TRUSTS: CONSTRUCTION AND FUTURE INTERESTS 845

A. Future Interests 846
   1. Classification 846
   2. Future Interests in the Transferor 847
      a. Reversion 847
      b. Possibility of Reverter 848
      c. Right of Entry 848
   3. Future Interests in Transferees 848
      a. Remainders 848
         (1) Vested and Contingent Remainders 848
         (2) Vested Subject to Partial Divestment 849
         (3) Vested Subject to Divestment or Contingent? 850
         (4) Remainders and Reversions 851
      b. Executory Interests 851
   4. Future Interests Reform 853

B. Construction of Trust Instruments 855
   1. Preference for Vested Interests 855
      a. Acceleration into Possession 856
      b. Transferability 857
         (1) Inter Vivos Transfer 857
         (2) Transfer at Death 858
      c. Requiring Survival to Time of Possession 859
         (1) The Traditional No-Survivorship Rule of Construction 859
            Tait v. Community First Trust Co. 859
         (2) Multigenerational Class Gifts and Other Exceptions 863
            Clobberie's Case 864
         (3) The Survivorship-Plus-Antilapse Rule of UPC § 2-707 865
   2. Gifts to Classes 869
      a. Gifts of Income 869
         Dewire v. Haveles 869
      b. Gifts to Children, Issue, or Descendants 874
         (1) Gift to Children 874
         (2) Gift to Issue or Descendants 874
      c. Gifts to Heirs 876
         Estate of Woodworth 876
      d. The Rule of Convenience 881
         (1) Immediate Gifts 883
         (2) Postponed Gifts 884
         (3) Gifts of Specific Sums 885

Chapter 14  THE RULE AGAINST PERPETUITIES AND TRUST DURATION 887

A. The Common Law Rule 888
   1. History 888
      a. Predicates to the Rule 888
      b. The Duke of Norfolk’s Case 889
      c. Toward Lives in Being Plus 21 Years 890
   2. The Policy Against Remote Vesting 891
      a. The Modern Purposes of the Rule 891
b. Why “Lives in Being Plus 21 Years”? 893
c. The Rule and Trust Duration 893
3. A Rule of Logical Proof 894
   a. Some Life in Being 894
   b. When the Lives in Being Are Ascertained 895
4. What Might Happen and the Fantastical Characters 896
   a. The Fertile Octogenarian 897
   b. The Unborn Widow 899
   c. The Slothful Executor 899
d. The Magic Gravel Pit and Other Marvels 900

B. Perpetuities Reform 900
1. Saving Clauses 901
2. Reformation (or Cy Pres) 903
3. Wait-and-See 903
4. Abolition of the Rule Against Perpetuities 906
   Robert H. Sitkoff & Max M. Schanzenbach, Jurisdictional Competition for Trust Funds: An Empirical Analysis of Perpetuities and Taxes 906
   Lawrence W. Waggoner, From Here to Eternity: The Folly of Perpetual Trusts 910
   Jesse Dukeminier & James E. Krier, The Rise of the Perpetual Trust 911
5. The Restatement (Third) of Property 915
   Restatement (Third) of Property: Wills and Other Donative Transfers § 27.1 915

C. Application of the Rule to Class Gifts and Powers of Appointment 916
1. Class Gifts 916
   a. The All-or-Nothing Rule 916
   b. Exceptions to the All-or-Nothing Rule 918
      (1) Gifts to Subclasses 918
      (2) Specific Sum to Each Class Member 918
2. Powers of Appointment 919
   a. General Powers Presently Exercisable 919
      (1) Validity of Power 919
      (2) Validity of Exercise 919
   b. General Testamentary Powers and Nongeneral Powers 919
      (1) Validity of Power 920
      (2) Validity of Exercise 920
   c. The Delaware Tax Trap 921

D. Other Durational Limits 922
1. The Rule Against Suspension of the Power of Alienation 922
2. The Rule Against Accumulations of Income 924

Chapter 15 WEALTH TRANSFER TAXATION 929

A. The Federal Gift Tax 930
1. Taxable Gifts 930
   a. Inadequate Consideration in Money’s Worth 930
   b. Completion 930
   c. Joint Tenancy 932
   d. Income Tax Basis 932
   e. Liability for Gift and Estate Taxes 933
2. The Annual Exclusion 934
   Estate of Cristofani v. Commissioner 936
3. The Marital Deduction and Gift Splitting 942
B. The Federal Estate Tax
1. A Thumbnail Sketch
2. The Gross Estate
   a. The Probate Estate
   b. Joint Tenancy
   c. Annuities and Employee Death Benefits
   d. Life Insurance
   e. Retained Rights or Powers
      Estate of Maxwell v. Commissioner
      Old Colony Trust Co. v. United States
      Family Limited Partnerships
   f. Revocable Transfers
   g. Transfers Within Three Years of Death
   h. Powers of Appointment
      Estate of Vissering v. Commissioner
3. Deductions
   a. The Marital Deduction
      (1) Requirements to Qualify
      (2) The Nondeductible Terminable Interest Rule
      (3) Exceptions to the Nondeductible Interest Rule
      (4) Qualified Domestic Trusts
      (5) Tax Planning for Spouses: The Credit Shelter Trust and Portability
   b. The Charitable Deduction
C. The Generation-Skipping Transfer Tax
1. The Nature of the Tax
   a. A Taxable Generation-Skipping Transfer
   b. When GST Tax Must Be Paid
2. Exemption and Exclusions
D. State Estate and Inheritance Taxes
E. Income Taxation of Grantor Trusts

Table of Cases
Author Index
Index